



Risk Assessment – Habitat Hunters

Produced By:	C Nixon	Date of Issue:	11/2/19	Review Date:	1/1/21
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Operating Notes:

- Supervision ratio is 1 instructor to 1 class plus one additional instructor nearby. There is no requirement for an additional adult.
- Instructor to be trained to in-house syllabus. Refresher training as directed by session observations.

Risk – Benefit Statement: To understand the relationship between invertebrates and their habitats it is important that we explore a range of habitats (damp, under stones, with overhanging branches etc). Each habitat presenting different risks.

Hazard Description and activities giving rise to risk	Who may be harmed	Control Measures	Risk Rating
Public & dogs Walking on the reserve	Participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Instructor leads the way, pupils walk behind, with member of staff at end of line • Pupils told not to talk to public • Pupils told not to stroke dogs, we stand still & wait for owner to put dog on lead 	low
Slips, trips and falls Carrying Trays of equipment	Participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The importance of walking carefully will be made explicit as some of the pupils will be carrying trays to the site where we search • Hazards such as hills, rabbit holes, roots, nettles, brambles and over hanging branches will be pointed out 	low
Road Accident	All		low

Risk Matrix	Slightly Harmful	Harmful	Extremely Harmful
Unlikely	Low	Low	Medium
Likely	Low	Medium	High
Highly likely	Medium	High	High



Crossing the haul road		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The haul road is used by sand lorries and heavy plant machinery going to the working sand quarry. Instructors will stop pupils at a safe distance before the road. Listen and look for vehicles and escort pupils across whilst standing themselves in the middle of the road. High vis tabards are available on request. • Instructors will use the safe crossing places • Although traffic is infrequent on this road it is big and in dry weather creates a cloud of dust so stand well back from any traffic 	
Getting Lost Mini-beast hunt	Participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boundaries will be made clear by instructor • Pupils must stay insight of their allocated adult at all times 	low
Bruises Looking under stones	Participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils will be shown how to carefully move stones to ensure the safety of themselves and not disturb the micro habitat underneath • Pupils not complying to instructions will be asked to sit out 	low
Cuts, stings, poisoning, allergies Seasonal hazards	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The instructor will scan the area before the activity begins • Natural hazards such as fungi, poisonous plants or stinging insects will be pointed out and avoided • Any litter will be removed • Instructor will check booking form for allergy information 	medium
First Aid emergencies		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take first aid kit • Take radio 	
Weather Conditions		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The lead instructor will review the risk assessment in view of the weather on the day. 	

Risk Matrix	Slightly Harmful	Harmful	Extremely Harmful
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Likely	Low	Medium	High
Highly likely	Medium	High	High



		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The instructor will amend activity if ongoing changing weather conditions effect risks	
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Highly likely	Medium	High	High